

December 5, 2001

To: Chief Executive Officials  
Town Planning Directors  
Town Public Works Directors  
State Agencies  
Narragansett Indian Tribe

RE: **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FFY 2003-2004**

The State Planning Council is starting to develop the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for federal fiscal years 2003-2004. I am writing to explain how you can be included in the process, if you wish.

## **BACKGROUND**

The TIP is a multi-year program of highway (including bicycle and pedestrian), transit (bus, rail, and water), airport, and rail freight projects. The State Planning Council, acting as the single statewide Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in Rhode Island adopts it every two years.

### **NEW THIS YEAR**

The TIP process has been modified somewhat. Please read this correspondence in its entirety for details on the following:

***Project Limits*** – Municipalities will have a cap on the number of projects that can be submitted for consideration. Certain types of projects will be exempt from the cap.

***CMAQ*** – Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality project proposals should be submitted with other TIP projects. There is no separate project solicitation.

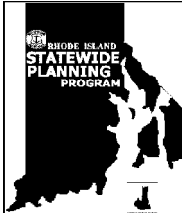
***Resurfacing*** – Requests for resurfacing projects should be submitted on the new one page form (attached).

***Cover Sheet for Municipalities*** – Cover sheet must accompany project proposals (attached).

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
FFY 2003-2004  
PROCESS and SCHEDULE**

	2001			2002								
TASK	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	
<b>COMMUNITY OUTREACH</b>												
<b>PROPOSAL SUBMISSION</b>												
Initial notice (11/1)	X											
Solicitation to officials (12/3)		X										
Public notice (12/13, 1/3)		X	X									
Workshops												
Public hearings												
Submission deadline (2/22)				X								
<b>PREPARE DRAFT TIP</b>												
Staff review of proposals												
Regional subcommittee scoring												
Draft TIP												
Tech. Com./SPC (5/3, 5/9)							X	X				
Distribute draft TIP (5/14)								X				
<b>REVIEW AND COMMENT</b>												
TAC meeting (5/23)							X					
Tech. Com./SPC (6/7, 6/13)								X	X			
Advertise/send notices (6/5)								X				
Public hearings/TAC mtg. (6/27)									X			
Revise draft												
Distribute final draft (7/22)										X		
<b>ADOPTION</b>												
TAC meeting (8/1)*										X		
Tech. Com./SPC (8/2, 8/8)										X	X	

\* Combine July and August TAC meetings on 8/1.  
Dates are subject to change.



## State Planning Council

One Capitol Hill

Providence, RI 02908

[www.planning.state.ri.us](http://www.planning.state.ri.us)

### TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

### MUNICIPAL SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

MUNICIPALTY: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE PRESENTED AT TAC PUBLIC HEARING

#### SUBMISSION MUST INCLUDE:

- ☐ ONE MAP OF ENTIRE CITY OR TOWN SHOWING ALL PROJECTS
- ☐ 8 COPIES OF ALL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORMS,  
EACH WITH INDIVIDUAL PROJECT MAPS

\_\_\_\_\_  
WE WISH TO REMOVE OR MODIFY PROJECTS ON THE 01-02 TIP  
(Please type yes or no.)

*IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE ON A SEPARATE SHEET.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME AND TITLE OF CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE AND DATE

**MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PROJECTS: (2-7) based on population - see blue enclosure** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Projects submitted within limit:

#### Priority #

1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____
6	_____
EZ	_____

#### Other projects submitted (exempt from limit):

Regional (attach additional sheets if necessary)

1	_____
2	_____
CMAQ (attach additional sheets if necessary)	
1	_____
2	_____

This box should have only one #1 priority.

#### Resurfacing Projects in order of priority: (attach additional sheets if necessary)

1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____



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# TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM

*Do not use this  
form for Resurfacing  
or Enhancement Projects*

## I. PROPOSER INFORMATION

Submitted by: (Name of organization/local government) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## II. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Community(ies): \_\_\_\_\_

Location: (attach an 8 1/2" x 11" location map and also indicate project limits on townwide map) \_\_\_\_\_

Limits: From: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

Identify Project Type: check appropriate project category:

- |   |                                     |  |                                      |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle/Pedestrian | <input type="checkbox"/> Highway    | <input type="checkbox"/> Study & Development (all new projects)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transit     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Safety:    | <input type="checkbox"/> Intermodal | <input type="checkbox"/> Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality(CMAQ) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Please check the following if applicable: ☐ Regional (submitted by 2 or more municipalities) ☐ Enterprise Zone

### II A. Describe proposed action: (use additional sheets if necessary)

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### II B. Describe need for proposed action and benefits for mobility: (use additional sheets if necessary)

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### II C. Describe environmental benefits of project e.g., air quality/water quality: (use additional sheets if necessary)

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### III. PROJECT SUPPORT

**Local Priority:** (if submitted by a city or town) This proposal is priority #\_\_\_\_\_ of a total of \_\_\_\_\_ proposals submitted.

**Identify additional resources to be committed to this proposal, if any:**

Source: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Has the proposer completed feasibility, planning, or design studies for the proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
(if Yes, list and briefly describe below):

**III A. Describe support of proposed project for local and state goals and plans. Include references to local comprehensive plan(s), and State Guide Plan, and other state plans: (use additional sheets if necessary)**

**III B. Identify relationship of project to community or economic development initiatives: (use additional sheets if necessary)**

**III C. Provide information relevant to consideration of project proposal: (use additional sheets if necessary)**

### IV. PROJECT PUBLIC INPUT

*For proposals submitted by city or town government:*

A local public hearing to consider proposal ☐ was ☐ will be held on: (date): \_\_\_\_\_

*For proposals submitted by other organizations or entities:*

A letter of support from city/town municipal chief executive or planning director ☐ is attached ☐ will be submitted by March 1, 2002.

***8 copies of Project Proposal Forms must be returned no later than February 22, 2002 to:***

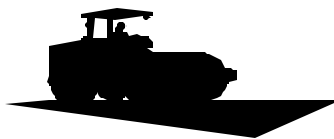
**R.I. Statewide Planning Program**  
ATTN: Katherine Trapani, Supervising Planner  
One Capitol Hill Providence, RI 02908

For further information contact:  
katherinet@mail.state.ri.us  
or at 222-6479



## State Planning Council

One Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908  
www.planning.state.ri.us



Staff Use Only: Proposal ID# \_\_\_\_\_

# TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM FOR RESURFACING PROJECTS

## I. PROPOSER INFORMATION

Submitted by: (Name of organization/local government) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## II. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Community(ies): \_\_\_\_\_

Location: (attach an 8 1/2" x 11" location map and also indicate project limits on townwide map) \_\_\_\_\_

Limits: From: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe proposed action:

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## III. PROJECT SUPPORT

**Local Priority:** (if submitted by a city or town) This resurfacing proposal is priority # \_\_\_\_\_ of a total of \_\_\_\_\_ resurfacing proposals submitted.

## IV. PROJECT PUBLIC INPUT

*For proposals submitted by city or town government:*

A local public hearing to consider proposal ☐ was ☐ will be held on: (date): \_\_\_\_\_

*For proposals submitted by other organizations or entities:*

A letter of support from city/town municipal chief executive or planning director ☐ is attached ☐ will be submitted by March 1, 2002.

**8 copies of Resurfacing Proposal Forms must be returned no later than February 22, 2002 to:**

Statewide Planning Program  
Attn: Katherine Trapani  
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

For further information contact:  
katherinet@mail.state.ri.us  
or at 222-6479

**STATE PLANNING COUNCIL  
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Transportation Improvement Program  
Project Evaluation Criteria**

- 1. Mobility benefits (5 point maximum each measure)**
  - a. number of travelers served, or volume of freight transported
  - b. correction of a high-priority safety problem
  - c. level of service improved, congestion reduced; or efficiency of freight service improved
  - d. linkages among different transportation modes (intermodal)
  - e. number of modes provided for (multimodal)
  - f. regional scale and impact
  - g. mobility provided to populations without vehicles
  - h. improvement of user comfort, convenience, or information

**Total (20 point maximum)**
- 2. Cost-effectiveness (5 point maximum each measure)**
  - a. capital cost in proportion to travel benefit (time, distance, or delay reduced, etc.) or economic benefit
  - b. improvement in pavement condition
  - c. utilization and preservation of existing infrastructure, consideration of future maintenance/operating costs
  - d. potential to leverage federal transportation funds with other public or private investment
  - e. project scaled back to achieve cost savings

**Total (20 point maximum)**
- 3. Economic development impact (5 point maximum each measure)**
  - a. support of state-designated enterprise zones
  - b. creation or retention of jobs, as by improving access to employment centers
  - c. facilitating the movement of goods
  - d. encouraging tourism (considering historical, recreational, cultural, and scenic assets)
  - e. benefit to economically disadvantaged populations

**Total (20 point maximum)**
- 4. Environmental impact (5 point maximum each measure)**
  - a. air quality (emissions reduced)
  - b. energy conservation (consumption reduced, as by fewer trips or reduced vehicle miles of travel)
  - c. water quality (pollution impacts reduced)
  - d. protection and enhancement of environmental resources
  - e. preservation and enhancement of scenic and historic districts or viewsapes, or improvement of visual appeal
  - f. contribution to a greenways system
  - g. maintaining integrity of neighborhoods, retaining community and quality-of-life values
  - h. consistency with environmental justice for minority and low-income populations
  - i. prevention of urban sprawl

**Total (20 point maximum)**
- 5. Degree of support to local and state goals and plans (5 point maximum each measure)**
  - a. priority given by local government compared to other projects
  - b. past commitment such as completion of studies or design
  - c. local funding share
  - d. linkage with other local projects
  - e. cooperation among two or more municipalities
  - f. contribution to achieving planned land use and other goals and policies of local comprehensive plans
  - g. contribution to achieving goals and policies of the state transportation plan and other State Guide Plan elements
  - h. degree of public support

**Total (20 point maximum)**

**Grand Total (100 point maximum)**

*October 2001*

## TIP FFY 03-04 SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS	INCLUDED IN SUBMISSION LIMIT?
<b>Bicycle/ Pedestrian</b>	Bike path, bike lane, sidewalk construction	These projects may be eligible for CMAQ and Enhancement funding as well ( <i>see below</i> ). Projects already in the TIP do not need to be resubmitted.	Yes
<b>Bridge</b>	Bridge construction, rehabilitation	Bridge projects programmed by RIDOT. Please contact Bob Shawver directly at 222-4203, ext. 4224.	Not Applicable
<b>CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality)</b>	Projects that benefit air quality such as: transit service, bicycle facilities, clean fuel vehicles, congestion management, ITS	There is no separate CMAQ solicitation. Use the standard TIP Project Proposal form. All CMAQ projects will be referred to the Air Quality/Transportation Subcommittee for evaluation. Projects already in the TIP do not need to be resubmitted.	No
<b>Enhancements</b>	Bicycle, pedestrian, historic preservation, tourism, landscape, museums, environmental mitigation	<i>Separate solicitation and evaluation process. Contact Tom Queenan at RIDOT for instructions and application forms (222-4203, ext. 4239). Deadline: February 1, 2002.</i>	No
<b>Highway</b>	Highway widening or reconstruction, with drainage improvements, and/or sidewalk construction; new facilities	Projects already in the TIP do not need to be resubmitted. Applicants are advised that funding for new highway construction and/or major reconstruction projects is extremely limited. (Most new projects must go through Study and Development Category first, unless applicant supplies feasibility and preliminary engineering study.)	Yes
<b>Intermodal</b>	Park and ride lot, intermodal center, ferry landing, etc.	Projects already in the TIP do not need to be resubmitted.	Yes
<b>Interstate</b>	I-95, I-195, I-295	Interstate projects programmed by RIDOT.	Not Applicable



## TIP FFY 03-04 SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS	INCLUDED IN SUBMISSION LIMIT?
<b>Pavement Management/ Resurfacing</b>	<b>Federal Aid System eligible roadways only.</b> May include repairs to existing sidewalks.	<b><i>Please refer to the Pavement Management Program Status on gold paper.</i></b> Projects planned for FY 2002 - 2004 do <u>not</u> need to be resubmitted. <u>If communities wish to pursue projects that appear on the list as "unprogrammed," they must resubmit and prioritize these projects.</u> Other projects not on this list may be submitted, but please be advised that funding is extremely limited. <b><i>Please use the one page resurfacing form on buff colored paper.</i></b>	No
<b>Regional</b>	Corridor studies, transit service, highway	Two or more communities may jointly submit a project of regional scale (only one form is necessary). The project must be approved and signed by all municipalities in the project area.	No
<b>Study and Development</b>	Almost all new projects must be evaluated through the Study and Development program to define scope and estimate costs. This includes bicycle, intermodal, highway, etc., but excludes resurfacing proposals.	<b><i>Please refer to the Study and Development list on purple paper.</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects <u>currently in Study and Development that are not complete do not have to be resubmitted.</u></li> <li>• Projects <u>currently in Study and Development that are ready for TAC evaluation do not have to be resubmitted, but there is no guarantee that all of these projects will be funded/scheduled.</u></li> <li>• Projects in the current TIP that <u>have been studied and have not been recommended for construction</u> will be dropped, or recategorized (resurfacing, etc.) based on recommendation by RIDOT. Municipalities may resubmit these projects <i>if they disagree with the RIDOT recommendation</i>. On resubmittals, reconsideration of project scope to minimize costs is strongly advised.</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>Traffic/Safety</b>	Intersection improvements, signalization, turning lanes, drainage, striping, railroad crossings	Projects already in the TIP do not need to be resubmitted.	Yes
<b>Transit</b>	New service initiatives, new vehicles	Projects already in the TIP do not need to be resubmitted.	Yes

**NOTE: Communities with Enterprise Zones may submit one additional project if that project is located within the Enterprise Zone.**

# PROJECT SUBMISSION LIMITS

**COMMUNITIES WITH ENTERPRISE ZONES ARE PERMITTED  
TO SUBMIT ONE ADDITIONAL TIP PROJECT PROPOSAL,  
IF THAT PROJECT IS IN AN ENTERPRISE ZONE.**

*IN CASES WHERE A SINGLE ENTERPRISE ZONE IS LOCATED IN MULTIPLE COMMUNITIES,  
PROJECTS MAY BE SUBMITTED JOINTLY BY TWO OR MORE COMMUNITIES AS A REGIONAL  
PROJECT, WHICH WOULD BE EXEMPT FROM PROJECT LIMITS.*

Transportation Improvement Program Project Limits with Enterprise Zones				
Community	2000 Population	Enterprise Zone	Number of TIP Projects	Maximum Number of Projects (one must be in EZ)
Barrington	16,819		2	2
Bristol	22,469	yes	3	4
Burrillville	15,796		2	2
Central Falls	18,928	yes	2	3
Charlestown	7,859		2	2
Coventry	33,668		3	3
Cranston	79,269	yes	5	6
Cumberland	31,840	yes	3	4
East Greenwich	12,948		2	2
East Providence	48,688	yes	4	5
Exeter	6,045		2	2
Foster	4,274		2	2
Glocester	9,948		2	2
Hopkinton	7,836		2	2
Jamestown	5,622		2	2
Johnston	28,195		3	3
Lincoln	20,898	yes	3	4
Little Compton	3,593		2	2
Middletown	17,334		2	2
Narragansett	16,361		2	2
New Shoreham	1,010		2	2
Newport	26,475		3	3
North Kingstown	26,326		3	3
North Providence	32,411		3	3
North Smithfield	10,618		2	2
Pawtucket	72,958	yes	5	6
Portsmouth	17,149	yes	2	3
Providence	173,618	yes	6	7
Richmond	7,222		2	2
Scituate	10,324		2	2
Smithfield	20,613		3	3
South Kingstown	27,921		3	3
Tiverton	15,260	yes	2	3
Warren	11,360	yes	2	3
Warwick	85,808		5	5
West Greenwich	5,085		2	2
West Warwick	29,581	yes	3	4
Westerly	22,966		3	3
Woonsocket	43,224	yes	4	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,048,319</b>		<b>107</b>	<b>120</b>

## NOTES:

11/27/2001

1. This formula is based on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and has been adopted by the State Planning Council.
2. Resurfacing, CMAQ, Enhancement, and Regional project proposals are exempt from project limits.
3. State agencies (excluding RIDOT and RIPTA) may submit a maximum of 6 projects.
4. Projects submitted by members of the public must be approved by the municipality but do not count against the municipality's limit.

December 24, 2001

Dear Transportation Advocate:

The State Planning Council is starting to develop the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for federal fiscal years 2003-2004. The TIP is a multi-year program of highway, bicycle, pedestrian, transit (bus, rail, and water), airport, and rail freight projects. We welcome public participation and comment in the TIP development process, and this letter explains how you may participate, if you wish.

Citizens and organizations are encouraged to submit their ideas and proposals through one or more cities and towns or a state-agency sponsor. Working through your city or town is a means to ensure that proposals have a fair hearing at every level of government and that projects are consistent with local and state plans, policies, and programs. This office will try to assist in locating a contact person if needed; generally, the city or town public works or planning office will be the place to start.

A request for projects has recently been sent to the chief executives, planning officials, and public works directors of all cities and towns. A copy of this request and related information is available for review and downloading on the Statewide Planning Program's website at [www.planning.state.ri.us](http://www.planning.state.ri.us), or upon request made to the contact listed on page 2 of this letter. If you are considering a proposal you should obtain and review these materials. In addition, you are encouraged to attend one of four public workshops which RIDOT, RIPTA, and the Statewide Planning Program will hold in January to provide information and accept public comments on transportation issues. A workshop schedule is attached and will be widely advertised.

In February 2002, the State Planning Council's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) will hold several public hearings to accept proposals and comments for the TIP. The dates, times and locations of these hearings will be advertised in the *Providence Journal*, and will also be posted on Statewide Planning's website. **All TIP project proposals must be presented at one of the TAC's four public hearings.**

In addition to presentation at a public hearing, a "Project Proposal Form" must also be completed and submitted for each proposal. Project Proposal Forms must be received by the Statewide Planning Program by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 22, 2002. All proposals must show that they conform to the state transportation plan, *Transportation 2020: Ground Transportation Plan*, adopted August 2001 (State Guide Plan Element 611, available on website), and local comprehensive plans. Projects submitted from the public must include a letter of support for the project from the city or town (municipal chief executive or planning director).

Following evaluation and ranking of all proposals by the TAC, a draft TIP will be released in early Summer, 2002. There will be additional, widely-advertised opportunities for public comment on the draft TIP prior to its finalization and submission to the State Planning Council for adoption.

Again, we invite public involvement in developing this important Program. If you would like further information on participating in the TIP development process, please contact Ms. Ronnie Sirota, Senior Planner at (401) 222-1233 or by email: [rsirota@planning.state.ri.us](mailto:rsirota@planning.state.ri.us).

Yours very truly,

John P. O'Brien  
Chief, Statewide Planning

*As required by the Federal Highway Administration, Statewide Planning is assessing the effectiveness of our public participation strategies. Attached please find a survey. We would appreciate your response. Please include any comments and mail back to us. Thank you.*

## PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING THE TIP

The TIP is developed according to the State Planning Council's Rule IX, "Transportation Planning and Public Involvement Procedures." The Statewide Planning Program prepares the TIP in cooperation with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) and the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA), with the participation of interested cities and towns and the public.

The State Planning Council's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) works with the staff in developing a draft TIP. Membership of the TAC reflects a diversity of geographic parts of the state and of transportation interests, such as users and operators, environmental and economic development organizations, state and local officials, and interested citizens.

Cities and towns, through their municipal chief executives, may submit project proposals. Citizens, state agencies, and non-profit agencies may also submit proposals, provided that the proponent obtains a letter of support from the chief executive(s) or planning director(s) of the city(ies) or town(s) in which it is located. All projects must be consistent with the local comprehensive plan(s).

**All proposals must be presented at one of several public hearings to be conducted by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) at locations around the state in February.** Following evaluation of proposals by the TAC, a draft TIP will be prepared, and opportunity for local and public comment will be provided. Following revisions to reflect public input, a final draft TIP will be presented to the State Planning Council for adoption. Enclosed (on green paper) for your information is a tentative schedule for the TIP process.

## FUNDING CONSTRAINTS

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21), the federal legislation under which RI receives funding for its transportation programs continues the major policies of the previous six-year act "ISTEA". It is required that TIPs be financially constrained; that is, the total amount of money programmed may not exceed that authorized in the act. The program must be realistic, not a "wish list."

Since we are committed to the completion of projects in the current TIP, and since federal funds available to Rhode Island may be reduced, it will be possible to add only a very limited number of new projects. Communities are urged to prioritize their needs and concentrate their efforts on a few critical projects, rather than submitting a long list. You may also wish to consider some lower-cost, cost-effective projects that are relatively easy to implement, including improving public transit.

## PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMISSION LIMITS

The State Planning Council has voted this year to limit the number of projects that can be submitted by municipalities. This is a change from the last TIP that reflects serious anticipated funding constraints as well as the time involved in preparing and evaluating proposals. The formula, based on population, is the same formula used in the solicitation of projects for the

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and allows between 2 and 6 projects to be submitted by each municipality:

<u>2000 Population</u>	<u>Number of Projects</u>
<20,000	2
20,000-40,000	3
40,001-70,000	4
70,001-100,000	5
>100,000	6

There are several exceptions: Enhancement<sup>1</sup>, CMAQ, resurfacing, and regional projects are exempt from the limit. Additionally, communities which have Enterprise Zones (EZ) may submit one additional project if the project is located within the EZ. A table showing the number of projects your community may submit appears on the blue attachment.

State agencies (excluding RIDOT and RIPTA) may submit no more than 6 projects. Non-profit organizations and members of the public may submit projects, and based on our experience, there is no compelling reason to impose limits. Projects must be approved by the Town in which they are located (via a letter from the planning director or chief executive), and they do **not** count against a municipality's limits.

## REQUESTS FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

The following types of projects are eligible for federal funding: resurfacing, reconstruction, or construction of roads that are federal aid system eligible (functionally classified above urban local or rural minor collector); transit improvements and ridesharing projects; bicycle/pedestrian projects; and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality projects. Transportation Enhancement projects will be solicited separately. Please refer to the Submission Instructions (orange attachment) for more details on various project categories. All project proposals must show that they are in conformance with the state transportation plan, *Transportation 2020: Ground Transportation Plan*<sup>2</sup>, adopted August 2001 (State Guide Plan Element 611) and local comprehensive plans.

While some projects in the current TIP are proceeding as scheduled, others are still waiting to advance. This is particularly true for the "Resurfacing" category where projects far exceed available resources. However, those projects planned for years 2002-2004 (see attached Pavement Management Program Status on gold paper) will remain in the TIP<sup>3</sup>. Resurfacing projects identified as "Unprogrammed" must be resubmitted. If your city or town has other projects in the current TIP, you do not have to submit them again this year. There is one important exception to this policy. If your community's project was assigned to the "Study and Development" category of the TIP, and you are proposing that the project proceed differently

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<sup>1</sup> A separate solicitation of Enhancement projects by RIDOT is currently underway.

<sup>2</sup> Available on line at the Statewide Planning website: [www.planning.state.ri.us](http://www.planning.state.ri.us).

<sup>3</sup> Note that projects included in the Pavement Management Program through 2004 will remain in the TIP as candidate projects, subject to RIDOT prioritization. Staff may solicit additional information on proposed resurfacing projects to assist in prioritization.

than was recommended by the RIDOT study, you should resubmit that project. (Please see the attached list on purple paper.) Moreover, if your city or town wishes to remove or modify a project presently scheduled in the TIP, please let us know. A complete list of current TIP projects is available at [www.planning.state.ri.us](http://www.planning.state.ri.us).

Project requests must be submitted on the enclosed forms. *Please note that resurfacing projects should be submitted on the one page form provided (buff colored paper).* All other projects should be submitted on the attached two page form (white). All forms must be complete and as brief as possible. **Projects must be prioritized**, including Regional, CMAQ and EZ projects. **Resurfacing projects must be prioritized separately, beginning with #1.** Maps must be provided for individual projects. *Additionally, each municipality must submit one map of the entire city or town showing the location and limits of **all** projects submitted.* Because of the very limited federal and state funds available, the willingness of a community to contribute financially to a project will be considered, and this information must appear on the form. Eight (8) copies of all forms must be submitted. Local governments are urged to involve the public in the preparation of their recommendations, through advisory committees, public meetings, and other methods. Demonstrated public support and involvement affect project rankings. At a minimum, **city and town governments**, if they decide to submit proposals, **shall hold a local public hearing on projects they intend to submit for the TIP**, after public notice in accordance with local procedures.

## CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION OF PROPOSED PROJECTS

Most projects will be reviewed by the TAC using project evaluation criteria adopted by the State Planning Council (see enclosure on pink paper). Up to 20 points can be given in each of five major categories (mobility benefits, cost-effectiveness, economic development impact, environmental impact, and degree of support of local and state goals and plans). Enhancement projects and CMAQ projects undergo a separate review process, but all are eventually included in the TIP.

## WORKSHOPS

You are invited to attend any of the workshops for local officials and the public that Statewide Planning, RIDOT, and RIPTA will hold in January to explain the TIP process, including local procedures for public involvement. This will be a very good opportunity to pose questions and discuss preliminary project ideas. For example, RIDOT engineering staff may be able to assist a community in deciding whether a particular road segment requires resurfacing or reconstruction. Additionally, maps of federal aid system eligible roads will be available. You will be receiving a separate invitation to these workshops shortly.

## SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED PROJECTS

**All proposals must be presented at one of several public hearings to be conducted by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) at locations around the state in February.** You will be notified of the dates and places. Presentation of a proposal can be via an oral or written statement for the record delivered at a hearing which identifies the proposer and *briefly* describes each proposal in terms of location and nature or scope of work requested. You are

strongly encouraged to attend the hearing in your region. Project Proposal Forms do **not** have to be submitted at the public hearing at which a proposal is presented; but **8 copies of all Project Proposal Forms must be received by the Statewide Planning Program by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 22, 2002. The Municipal Submission Cover Sheet (yellow attachment) must accompany the submission.**

We hope to work cooperatively with cities and towns in preparing a TIP that results in a more efficient transportation system and full public participation in its development. If you have any questions about the upcoming TIP, please contact Katherine Trapani, Supervising Planner at 222-6479 or [katherinet@mail.state.ri.us](mailto:katherinet@mail.state.ri.us).

Yours very truly,

John P. O'Brien  
Chief, Statewide Planning

cc: Dr. Beverly Scott, RIPTA  
Dr. William Ankner, RIDOT  
Ms. Janis Loiselle, Governor's Office  
Mr. Ralph Rizzo, FHWA  
Transportation Advisory Committee

Enclosures:

1. TIP Process and Schedule (green)
2. Project Submission Limits (blue)
3. Submission Instructions (orange)
4. Pavement Management Program Status (gold)
5. Study and Development List (purple)
6. Proposal Form for Resurfacing Projects (buff)  
*may be copied on white paper*
7. Project Proposal Form (white)
8. Project Evaluation Criteria (pink)
9. Cover Sheet for Municipal Submissions (yellow)